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The School Superintendency.

Washington's school system has been seriously disturbed during the past dozen years by agitation and changes, which have cost little and done much harm. After a prolonged discussion and contest in Congress a new organic act was passed in 1906, which completely altered the manner of naming the school board and changed the composition of the board itself. The new board named under that act proceeded to make a change in the superintendency, after much searching importing a man from New Jersey, who proved to be a total misfit in the local school system. After a stormy administration he was deposed on charges of incompetence and insubordination, and the former superintendent replaced him. At the expiration of the latter's term another man from the outside was brought into the system who served for three years and then went to a higher salaried position in another city. He was succeeded by a local man, promoted from the school organization. Mr. Thurston's term of three years will expire June 30. It is now planned, according to report, to replace him with another man from outside of Washington.

The change in the superintendency at present would be disastrous to the school system, a lamentable mistake from every point of view. It would cause another upheaval in the schools, disturbing the teaching body, lowering its efficiency and shaking the confidence of the public in the educational system. Such a change should be contemplated only as a matter of extreme necessity. There is no such necessity at present.

Supt. Thurston's administration of the school system has been capable and conscientious. He has conducted his office with dignity, with a minimum of friction and with educational efficiency. He has developed remarkably during the three years of his present term, and has acquired a creditably high standing among the American educators as a man of capacity. He has been fair and exceptionally skillful in handling the delicate and difficult problems that the public schools in Washington always present in consequence of the maintenance of two systems in one for the two races.

It is difficult to conceive any good reason for such a change as that now suggested. No charges have been filed against Supt. Thurston. He has violated no rules of conduct, personal or official. He possesses the full confidence of the teaching body. He is going ahead carefully but effectively for reforms and changes in the school system, with the full approval of the board of education. He has necessarily made some opponents by a steadfast performance of his duty and a fearless discharge of his responsibilities in the maintenance of discipline. Educationally he has given Washington one of the best school administrations it has enjoyed in many years. Personally he has won the esteem and the respect of all with whom he has dealt.

To refuse a re-election to such a capable, conscientious official would be justified only on some ground of complaint of a serious character. Nothing has been advanced of this nature. The allegations of those opposed to the superintendent relate to mere matters of temperament. Against them stands a record of achievements which it would be hard to parallel in the educational history of Washington.

No school system can progress or thrive in a constant state of change. Washington has had four superintendents within eleven years. Yet it is suggested to change the present efficient and popular superintendent for some unknown, doubtless unselected man, making a fifth, who himself may not be expected to stay longer than the term of his election if the present policy of constant experimenting is pursued. What can be done toward real development in such circumstances? How can any body of teachers, the most competent and conscientious in the world, be expected to do the best work in the way of child training under such conditions?

The news censor is more of a "sphinx" than it was ever possible for a political candidate to be.

Discussing Taxes.

There is nothing necessarily disquieting in the promise of a spirited debate in both House and Senate on the revenue problem. The subject is worthy of it. War taxes are always heavy. All taxes are unwelcome. No tax gatherer ever gets the glad hand. He comes, and sees, and conquers, but his reception is never enthusiastic. His room is always regarded as better than his company.

While war has been declared, with full appreciation of its size and of what will be necessary to finance it, the people will yet scrutinize closely all provisions made by Congress for its conduct. They will pay, but will want to pay in reason. They will complain if assessments are not made fairly.

On this account all assessments should

represent a judicious spirit as respects both objects and rates. To pass by one thing and take another without complete justification would cause murmur. To make the rate of assessment high in one case and low in another without full explanation would add to the murmur.

The whole question is the more delicate and difficult because of a charge made at the time hostilities began to loom as a certainty that, as the rich had fomented and were forwarding the movement for preparedness, the rich should be made to pay, not only the bills for preparedness, but the bills for war if war should come.

War is here, and both rich and poor are involved. Money is necessary in large amounts to make the war go, and all should pay according to ability, as all are interested in the outcome.

While the ways and means committee will have given conscientious thought to the measure presented, the full House and the full Senate should examine it with all care and discuss it with all frankness. Snap judgment should not be taken in either body. It should not be taken in the Senate unless a more rigid modification of the rules than the one made at the last session is made now. As the rule stands, two-thirds of the members must support a proposition to limit debate, while the proposition itself, for a limited time, will be debatable.

The government will get the money needed, but should get it from the best assessable sources.

Mexico.

Venustiano Carranza is now President of Mexico, elected and installed according to the laws of the land. There is an American ambassador to that country, and a Mexican ambassador to this country, each at his post, and both duly accredited. Each is a man of experience in public affairs, and we may look to both for faithful and conscientious service.

We are safe in assuming that the men of substance in Mexico—men of education, property and patriotic pride—whether they have been Carranzistas or other—want peace, and an opportunity to go forward in the world and carry their country along a prosperous path. They must be tired of the conditions that have prevailed for the past half dozen years. They have suffered heavily in purse and otherwise, and been deeply mortified at seeing their country, after the tranquility and advancement of the Diaz regime, slip back into the old slough of blood and loot.

As next-door neighbors, holding business and other relations with the Mexicans, and wishing them well, certainly we are tired of it all. Next in degree to ourselves, we have suffered. American lives have been taken, American-owned properties of enormous values destroyed, and commercial and other relations between the two countries disastrously dislocated. The American wish, expressed many times and in many ways, may be stated afresh in Gen. Grant's famous phrase—which had so strong an influence as coming from him in our own domestic affairs—"Let us have peace."

We should not, however, shut our eyes to the fact that yesterday's ceremonies, important as they were, did not close the chapter. There is still unrest in Mexico, still armed resistance to Carranza and his supporters, and still the possibility of much more trouble for us. We are not out of the woods, and must still keep a sharp watch on developments.

Of course we shall. Our watch will be the sharper because of the European complications. They did not exist when our Mexican complications began. But they have reached very great proportions now, and may continue to grow.

The interests of both Mexico and America call for peace and good will between the two countries. As next-door neighbors they have helped each other in the past, and should resume, fully and sincerely, the former relations.

March has passed and the question whether May is to come in like a lion or a lamb asserts itself.

Zeppelin warfare never got much further than malicious destruction of private property.

Grain crops are so important this year that if they succeed fruit crop failures will not be seriously noted.

The demand for economy does not prevent German aviators from wasting bombs on civilians.

A Prussian Bourbon.

A Bourbon is one who "forgets nothing and learns nothing." He is the symbol of extreme conservatism. He wants no changes from the old order save to make the old order more secure. The name came from the ruling family in France preceding the revolution, that terrible revolt against the very power that the Bourbons had established and had so cruelly abused. But Bourbonism is not a matter of nationality. It is to be found in other countries. Its present seat today is mainly Germany. This war that has convulsed the world and aligned practically every nation in the ranks is the result of German Bourbonism. One of the characteristics of the German Bourbon is to see nothing and admit nothing. A striking illustration of this school of thought is furnished by the speech of Dr. Diederich Hahn, leader of the agrarian junker party, a member of the reichstag, delivered the other day in Berlin. He said in part:

"Has monarchial Germany failed? No, it stands brilliantly before the world as conqueror. We are today in sight of peace. May it be a real German peace. We hope those who govern us will realize our strength, will keep their nerve and continue to face the enemy as conquerors, not as cowards. Germany's future is a future of battle and conquest. . . . We must have

the coal fields of Longwy and Briey. We must have fresh territories for emigration in the east. We must not rest until our hands have been conquered. The government must cease confining with the socialists. There is only one way to deal with our Anglo-Saxon enemies, and that is to be as brutal as they. Look at what our government has done in the case of the United States! Long ago we knew on what footing America stood we allowed Ambassador Gerard to live among us and to mix in our politics."

This speech was probably read at the Wilhelmstrasse with a feeling of chagrin. Even at the headquarters of junkerism it is realized that Germany is not in a position to talk of conquest, that even with the submarine warfare progressing to the point of causing anxiety in England and France, that even with the Russian people distracted by revolution and change, and even with the present failure of the allied forces to break through the western line, the condition of Germany today is extremely precarious, that the entry of the United States into the war is a factor of vital importance, that the people at home are becoming dangerously restive under their privations and losses, that the Hindenburg line is being thinned and bent, that Austria is longing for a separate peace, that Turkey is being steadily beaten and that disaster menaces on every side. To talk now of conquest, of territorial expansion, of future world domination is a blind denial of the inevitable.

The phrase, "hysteria of economy," recently invented, sounds formidable. However, it must be conceded that there is no benefit to anybody in an actual shortage of commodities and no harm in the elimination of waste.

Suggestions that base ball players be exempt from military duty meet with no favor. A man who has faced the umpire and the bleachers has qualified for larger strife.

English sovereigns have never been encouraged to assume "divine right" as a pretext for evading human responsibilities.

The reminder that he has been used to further German interests is calculated to make any sincere pacifist "fighting mad."

Among the ironies of fate may be noted the fact that Col. Roosevelt would be one of the last men in the world to appreciate being kept out of war.

Some of the price boosters operated so industriously in time of peace that little should remain to be added to the cost of living in time of war.

Onions and potatoes are sufficiently expensive to make kaffee salad unpopular aside from patriotic reasons.

A reliable method of avoiding conscription is available to every man fit for service. He may volunteer.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

Evanescence.

"Does your family have any trouble with servants?"

"No," replied Mr. Crosslots; "I don't believe any of them stay around the place long enough to become really troublesome."

Discrepancy.

For every speech that can awake a sentiment sublime,
A dozen merely seem to take
Unnecessary time.

Economy.

"Does your wife economize?"

"Yes," replied Mr. Meekton. "She has figured to a nicety how many new gowns the money I spend for cigars would buy."

The Scapegoat.

"I suppose you have repudiated alcoholic drink since prohibition landed."

"No," replied Broncho Bob. "I've got a certain lingering respect for red liquor. And I'm kind o' glad to see prohibition enabling it to prove an alibi when a case of natural cussedness asserts itself."

"Trouble."

"Trouble," said Uncle Eben, "is mostly foolishness dat comes so close to home you can't laugh at it."

Awakening.

The days are gettin' brighter down to Pook on the Creek.
The sun is smilin' gay where once the shadows gathered thick.
And as the violets laugh to see the storm clouds fade away

We join the great awakenin' 'mid the blossomin' of May.
The fellers that once sat around a-nursin' rheumatiz
Are hitchin' up the hoses to the plows prepared fur riz.
We're makin' ready fur a crop o' grain so fine an' big,
A-realizin' that the folks who cannot fight must dig.

Us fellers that fur years have gathered at the store each night
Once thought we might sit peaceful an' observe the days take flight;
While our whiskers kep' a-growin' an' our hair kep' turnin' gray.
We'd let the youngsters work an' take our turn at rest an' play.
But the boys have gone a-marchin' in, we're proud to see 'em go,
We're obliged to stand behind 'em as they face the common foe.
The youngsters have grown old an' Father Time has played a trick
That makes us old 'uns younger, down to Pook on the Creek.

A Triumph for Common Sense.

From the Philadelphia Ledger.
The decisive vote by which the Senate and House on Saturday rejected the plea of the sentimentalists and impractical idealists and pledged the country to the principle of universal liability to service removes a great peril, and will give to the aid and forest of democracy a new assurance that the entrance of the United States into the struggle is going to hasten, if it will not actually insure, ultimate victory.

\$2.50 C B Front-Lace
and Back-Lace
Corsets, \$1.39

For One Day Only.

Excellent values. Splendid-fitting models, made of fine quality coutil and batiste; medium bust and long-hip styles, with elastic section across back. Colors, white and pink. Sizes in the assortment range from 18 to 36.

On Sale—Street Floor.

THE SHOPPING CENTER

The PALAIS ROYAL

Estab. 1877 Desirable Qualities—Correct Styles A. Lisner

75c W. B. Brassieres,

Special at 50c

Perfect fitting, made of linen, trimmed with wide cluny lace, back and front. It really looks like a much more expensive garment on. Sizes 34 to 48.

On Sale—Street Floor.

The Palais Royal Assortment of Spring and Summer Knit Underwear Is Unexcelled Anywhere

All standard makes of recognized merit are represented here in a complete range of shapes and styles.

Prices in Ribbed Goods
From 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2

Prices in Glove Silk Underwear
From \$1, \$1.50, \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50 to \$10

We are sole agents in Washington for celebrated Athens Underwear. Fashioned on live models to assure perfect fit. Prices range from 50c to \$1.50.

"Merode" Underwear always here in generous quantities; hand finished and well made. Vests, Pants and Tights, 50c to 75c. Union Suits, 75c to \$1.25.

Carter's Fine Weave, Glove-fitting Underwear, priced at \$1.25 and up to \$1.75.

Richelleu Underwear, gaining in favor; particularly attractive in the pink and white. Union Suits and Envelope Chemise. High-class merchandise at popular prices. Vests, 25c to 50c. Union Suits, 50c, 75c, \$1 and \$1.25.

Kayser—with a reputation built on gloves—but now the underwear business with them equals, if not exceeds, the other. Vests, 25c to \$1. Union Suits, pink and white, 50c to \$2. Glove Silk Top Union Suits, white and pink, \$1.19 to \$2.50.

Specials—All New, Perfect Underwear

Ladies' Low-Neck Suits, with tailored top, tight knee and umbrella style. These are well made, perfect-fitting goods, in regular and extra sizes. . . . 49c

Ladies' Low-Neck Ribbed Vests, plain and fancy yokes; ordinary and extra sizes. Kayser and Richelleu . . . 29c

Ladies' Ribbed Vests, plain and fancy yokes, round neck and V neck; also the popular bodice style, without the shoulder strap; ordinary and extra sizes. . . . 18c

Ladies' Silk Lisle Vests, plain and fancy yokes; white and pink; plain and hem— 59c

Ladies' Ribbed Lisle Vests, plain and fancy yokes; ordinary and extra sizes . . . 39c

Ladies' Low-Neck Union Suits, tight knee and shell trimmed; ordinary and extra sizes. . . . 29c

Extra Special—Union Suits, Values to 75c

All shapes, tight knee, shell and umbrella styles, plain and fancy yokes; white and pink. Closed Suits, Envelope Suits, New Cut 3-Piece Suits, medium weight and summer weight, in the following makes: "Athena," "Merode," "Kayser," "Richelleu" and "Blue Star." A wonder— 59c

Women's Glove Silk Underwear

Includes "Kayser," "Niagara Maid" and other well known brands. Following are a few of many

Remarkable Values in Silk Undergarments at \$2.95

Including a fortunate purchase of excellent qualities that were used as "samples" and upon which we were granted a concession; all are new, clean and perfect in every way. Colors: White and pink only. In the lot there are

Glove Silk Bloomers, plain and fancy trimmed; Glove Silk Union Suits, tailored top, white and pink, reinforced; Glove Silk Envelope Chemise, handsomely trimmed, bodice style; Glove Silk Vests, elaborately trimmed and embroidered.

Another Interesting Special Is
Glove Silk Garments, \$1.95

Vests, white and pink, embroidered and lace trimmed; Camisoles, with deep lace yokes; Union Suits, white and pink; Envelope Chemise, tailored top, white and pink; Bloomers, white and pink.

Specials in Vests, \$1.49

Vests, plain and embroidered; Corset Covers, lace trimmed; Bloomers, reinforced; white and pink.

Glove Silk Bloomers, plain and elaborately lace trimmed; pink and white; \$2.50 to \$6.
Glove Silk Vests, plain, embroidered and elaborately lace trimmed to match bloomers; pink and white; \$1.75 to \$5.
Glove Silk Union Suits, plain, embroidered, lace trimmed and bodice style; pink and white; \$3.75 to \$7.50.

Glove Silk Envelope Chemise, plain and embroidered; elaborately trimmed; \$2.50 to \$7.50.
Glove Silk Gowns; pink and white; elaborately lace trimmed; V neck and sleeveless; high neck and short sleeves; hemstitched band; \$5.75 to \$10.
Glove Silk Camisoles, elaborately lace trimmed and embroidered; bodice styles and shoulder straps. Also new brocade; white and pink; \$1.75 to \$5.

No! We Haven't Forgotten the Kiddies!

Splendid Values Are Offered in
Children's Underwear

A good assortment of Children's Vests, Pants and Union Suits for boys and girls.

Carter Vests, summer weight for children up to 3 years of age; all shapes . . . 29c
All he needs, a Nainsook Suit, with the button attachment. 2 to 12 years . . . 50c
Boys' Fine Weave and Cross Bar Union Suits, high neck and athletic style; 6 to 16 years . . . 29c
Children's Plain Gauze Pants, French style, to wear with socks. . . . 35c
Three for \$1.

BARGAIN
BASEMENTA Permanent Place for
Thrill and Husbandry

Silk Dresses, \$12.50

Values to \$16.00.

Of taffetas and crepe de chine, in all the season's wanted colors.

Silk Dresses, \$13.85

Values to \$19.50

Crepe de chine and taffeta, and also in combination with georgette.

Suits, at \$12.50

Values to \$19.50

Tailored and Sport models in navy blue and colors.

Wool Dresses, \$6.50

Values to \$10.00.

Of serge, Panama cloth and wool crepe; plain and plaid styles.

Dance Dresses, \$10

Values to \$16.50

Light shades of taffetas and satins. Misses' sizes.

Coats, \$4.98

Values to \$8.98

Wool velours, plaids and checks. Misses' sizes.

Coats, \$12.50

Values to \$17.50

Plain color wool velour and Poplin Coats in various colors.

Quaker Mothproof
Chests, \$1.50

Protection Garment Bags, germproof, airtight; size 26½x35, at 35c; 26½x44, at 29c.

On Sale—Fourth Floor.

Special Purchase of Smart New Blouses

That are up-to-the-minute in style; cleverly fashioned of the newest and most wanted, excellent quality materials, such as Jap silk, crepe de chine and Georgette crepe.

Grouped Into Three Lots—On Sale Tomorrow
At \$1.95, \$2.95, \$3.95

Very Unusual Values—In the Third Lot Values Up to \$5
Blouses, in all of the new shades, including white and flesh; tailored, sport and dress models, some with fancy collars and cuffs and a large pearl button, at . . . \$2.95
First group—Fancy styles of good, heavy quality Jap silk, in sport and dress models, trimmed with deep scalloped, valance and cuffs. Exceptional choice of blue, brown and green; designs woven into rug in neat conventional designs. . . . \$1.95
Second group—Crepe de Chine and Georgette . . . \$3.95
Third group—Fine Georgette, Crepe de Chine and Pussy Willow Silks, at . . . \$3.95
On Sale—Third Floor.

Oil Opaque Window Shades, 45c

Size 36; made of heavy quality oil opaque, in green, white or cream; mounted on well made spring rollers. Complete with fixtures ready to put up.

Marquessette and Voile,

12½c Yard

Values to 25c. Choice of two big table linen Voiles and Marquessettes, some with fancy open-work border. Also a large variety of Curtains Voiles, finished with floral borders, plain or figured centers, in an assortment of pretty color combinations.

Domus Fiber Rugs
6x9 ft., \$4.95; 8x10 ft., \$6.95; 9x12 ft., \$10.95
New designs and color combinations in these exceptionally well wearing fiber rugs. Choice of blue, brown and green; designs woven into rug in neat conventional designs.

New 1917 Deltox Rugs
\$9.95
Size 12 ft. by 12 ft. New Stenciled Rugs in pretty Chinese and conventional designs. An extra heavy quality grass rug, with a smooth, even finish that can only be found in the new Deltox Rugs.

On Sale—Second Floor.

Varsity Underwear
For Men

Fine Checked Nainsook garments and Union Suits, reliably made, now on sale at following prices:

Varsity Union Suits, 79c
Varsity Shirts and Drawers, 43c each.

"Mansco" Underwear, made by the Manhattan Shirt Company, at \$1, \$1.50 and \$2. The feature of these very desirable summer garments is the slide back; ask the salesman about it.

On Sale—Street Floor.

Protect Your Winter
Garments, Etc.

For protection against moths and insects in clothing, furs, rugs, carpets, upholstery, etc., we strongly recommend the following items:

Oriental Crystals, per box, 25c.
Moth Crystalline, extra refined; per box, 15c.

Naphthalene and Cedar mixed; per box, 15c.
Red Cedar Wood, per box, 10c.
Moth Balls, per lb., 15c.

On Sale—Second Floor.

On Sale—Second Floor.